

confidence they had in themselves, and their willingness to go into harm's way. If there was dangerous work to be done, they were willing to do it. Colonel McCartney, Lieutenant Colonel McMahon, and First Sergeant Scalavino have displayed that same commitment and valor to our country.

After graduating from the Marine Corps Platoon Leader's Course in 1968, Stephen McCartney was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in 1969 and assigned as an infantry officer. In this capacity, he served with the 1st Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam and participated in three major combat operations against Viet Cong and North Vietnamese army units until 1971. In 1973, Colonel McCartney left active duty but remained involved in the Marine Corps Reserve, serving with the 25th Marines. However, his tour did not end there.

During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, then Lieutenant Colonel McCartney and his battalion were activated and assigned to the 1st Marine Division. There he participated in direct combat operations against Iraqi forces in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. In 1992, McCartney was promoted to his present rank. In his nearly thirty years of active and reserve service, Colonel McCartney has served in a variety of other important Marine Corps billets with consistent and meritorious service. Indeed, Colonel McCartney's services have ranged from infantry officer to the Providence Police Department where he retired with the rank of Major, to his most recent appointment as Chief of Police for the Warwick Police Department.

Lieutenant Colonel Jack McMahon is retiring from the Marine Corps Reserve after serving our country for over twenty years. During these years, Lieutenant Colonel McMahon's reserve and active duty experience included service as a judge advocate, as well as a commanding officer of Rhode Island's Marine Corps Reserve transportation unit in Fields Point and at the U.S. Naval War College.

Throughout his career, Lieutenant Colonel McMahon has been the recipient of numerous commentary letters and awards, including the "Junior Officer of the Year" award in 1979. He has been recommended for the Navy Achievement, two Navy Commendations, a Meritorious Service Medal, and the Navy-Marine Corps Medal. Finally, Lieutenant Colonel McMahon has served as a prosecutor in the Rhode Island Attorney General's office for the past nineteen years.

A native of Sicily, First Sergeant Thomas Scalavino came to the United States in 1960 and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1965. Without much time to spare, First Sergeant Scalavino participated in eighteen operations in the Republic of Vietnam from 1966 to 1967 as a rifleman in such military actions

as Operations Big Horn and Operation Coyote.

In 1971, First Sergeant Scalavino was honorably discharged, but could not stay away for long. He reenlisted in 1981 at Transport Company in Providence, Rhode Island at the rank of Corporal. His responsibilities included: Administrative Chief, Platoon Sergeant, Platoon Commander, and Company First Sergeant. Later, First Sergeant Scalavino was sent to Southwest Asia where he participated in Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Cease Fire. First Sergeant Scalavino also has received the "Navy Achievement Medal" for his efforts as Motor Transport Officer in Ocean Venture 93.

Mr. President, I join with all Rhode Islanders in extending to Colonel McCartney, Lieutenant Colonel McMahon, and First Sergeant Scalavino our best wishes. Their contributions certainly will be remembered for generations to come.●

#### 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GALENA POST OFFICE

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a historic institution in the State of Illinois and the nation. On July 30, 1999, the Galena Post Office will celebrate its 140th anniversary making it the longest continuously owned and operated post office in America.

When the post office was founded, Galena was a thriving mining and port community in northwestern Illinois. The streets were bustling with miners, traders, dock workers, and trappers. Though a great deal has changed since then, many of the original buildings remain standing in Galena's historic downtown district. Among these structures is the post office.

The idea of the Galena Post Office was initiated by Congressman Elitu B. Washburne, a pre-Civil War era politician from Illinois. The funds for the facility were authorized and appropriated by Congress on August 18, 1856. Construction of the building began in 1857, when the first limestone shipments for the edifice arrived via tow-boat. Upon the completion of the building's structure on August 3, 1859, the *Weekly Northwestern Gazette* predicted, "it will last 1,000 years with only two forces capable of destroying it, one being an earthquake and the other a mob." This newspaper was prophetic. The Galena Post Office has outlived every other United States post office. It continues to thrive today with a delivery area of more than 2800.

One hundred and forty years later, the Galena Post Office stands proudly in the center of town in the same condition as it was in 1859. Its 5947 square foot interior was the grand vision of architect Arni B. Young. The two-story building is highlighted by an impres-

sive limestone exterior. Mr. Young's plans included a civic meeting place with a grand cast-iron stairwell, mahogany interior, and arched windows to complement the lobby area.

The Galena Post Office served as not only a post office and a social center but also as a vital part of the community. The Smithsonian National Postal Museum has bestowed Galena's post office with yet another honor, The Great American Post Office Award. This month the museum will host an exhibit commemorating Galena's Post Office for its outstanding architectural features, historical significance to the community, and outstanding record of service.

Mr. President, on Friday I will have the honor to share in the celebration of the 140th anniversary of the Galena Post Office. It is truly a remarkable accomplishment.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE ALAN KARCHER

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate a man who was a good friend and an extraordinary political mentor. I will miss the opportunity to consult with him on matters important to governing. His contribution to me was a valuable one and it is deep in my thought and functioning as a U.S. Senator. He was a superb role model for public service and I followed his judgement often. I am honored to offer this tribute to former New Jersey Assembly Speaker Alan Karcher, his indomitable spirit, his unshakeable conviction, his widespread talents, his love for politics in the widest sense, and his devotion to the people of New Jersey.

Alan's death on July 27 at too young an age, was not totally unexpected—he had been battling cancer for several years—but the reality of it shocks all of us who knew him. And there are a lot of us who fought in the trenches of New Jersey politics alongside him, as well as those who fought in opposition. Alan used his considerable wit, intellect and spirit to master New Jersey politics, and all of us respected him as the consummate politician. Alan was political in the most classical sense of that word, with all of its ties to the Greek concepts of the body politic, the people and citizenship, and he was political in the most modern sense of the word—sagacious, prudent, shrewd, and artful.

Alan saw elected office as public service and an honored and honorable family tradition. Both his father, Joseph Karcher, and a great-uncle, John Quaid, also served in the New Jersey Assembly. When Alan followed them in 1974, he honed the practice of legislating to a fine art, serving as both Assembly Majority Leader and as Speaker during his sixteen-year career. He was a master of strategy in the service